

Washington, DC -- On Tuesday, January 23, Joe was appointed to the House Committee on Small Business, becoming one of only a handful of new Members of Congress to serve on three Committees. The Committee's jurisdiction includes the Small Business Administration and its programs, and in the new Congress, the Committee has taken on an expanded role of reviewing and acting on initiatives that affect this nation's 26 million small businesses.

"I believe that national security begins at home, in the education, economic, and health security of our people—with the economy a particularly driving issue within my District and region. That's why I am so pleased to be named to the House Committee on Small Business and be one of only a handful of new Members to serve on three House Committees. There is no question in my mind that small businesses play a vital role in creating jobs, which is why my first priority on the Committee is ensuring that my district's small businesses have a seat at the table, a stronger voice in Congress, and are provided the policies they need to grow and create new jobs. A goal of mine is halting and reversing a trend in our district, particularly Delaware County, where — according to the Bureau of Labor and Statistics — between 1998 and 2005 there was over 8000 net jobs lost, and since 1990, small businesses have lagged 21 percentage points behind the national average in small business growth.

"I am extremely appreciative of this assignment, because I am already on the Education and Labor Committee where I will emphasize the workforce. Now I can address the other side of the coin, business and business owners. Both are extremely important to the future of the district... our workforce, and our businesses, to create jobs and opportunity."

Joe Intends to Focus on Growth and Jobs in the District, Particularly Reversing the Trend in Delaware County:

- According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics:

Between 1998 and 2005, Delaware County lost over 8000 net jobs.

- In the last three years, **600** private business establishments left Delaware County.
- In that time, one out of five private manufacturing establishments has left Delaware County.
- According to last year's IRS filings, **2,100** more residents are moving out of than are moving into Delaware County every year for the last ten years. The median income of those who move

out is \$32,000 as opposed to \$29,000 for those who move in.

- Since 1987, the number of jobs in Delaware County has increased by **12** percent compared to 30 percent in the U.S. (Bureau of Economic Analysis).
- Since 1987, the population of Delaware County has increased 1 percent, while it has gone up 5 percent in PA and 22 percent nationwide (U.S. Census).
- From 1989 to 2003, median household income in Delaware County increased only **39 percent**, compared to **50 percent** nationwide.
- U.S. Census data indicates that poverty has grown in Delaware County from **6.9** percent in 1989 to **8.9** percent in 2004.
- Since 1990, private establishments, such as small businesses, have lagged **21** percentage points behind the national average in small business growth (14 percent in Delaware County vs. 35 percent nationwide).
- Since 1990, employment in Delaware County has only grown two percent compared to **18** percent nationwide (U.S. Census).
- Between 1990 and 2000, the number of households increased 2 percent in Delaware County, compared to 6 percent in PA and 15 percent nationwide (2000 Census).
- Over the next 30 years, it is projected GDP growth will decrease from **3.25** percent to **2.25** percent, mostly resulting from the decline in population.

House Armed Services Committee

On Thursday, January 11, Joe received his House Armed Services Committee (HASC) subcommittee assignments. Joe is the only freshmen with three subcommittee assignments, and he was handpicked by Committee Chairman Ike Skelton (D-MO) and Subcommittee Chairman Marty Meehan (D-MA) to be the only freshman on the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee.

Education and Labor Committee

On Thursday, January 18, Joe — a member of the House Education and Labor Committee — was appointed to two influential subcommittees: The Early Childhood, Elementary, and Second Education Subcommittee chaired by Rep. Dale Kildee (D-MI 5th) and the Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions Subcommittee chaired by Rep. Rob Andrews (D-NJ 1st).

Representative of Joe's interest in the district's economic workforce is that since his election for Congress in November, Joe has met, among others, with the following: the Chester County Chamber of Business and Industry, the Delaware County Chamber of Commerce, the Mainline Chamber of Commerce, ConocoPhillips, PennBio (which represents more than 250 bioscience and related organizations across the commonwealth, Ed Coleman from the Community Action Agency of Delaware County, small business owners, Boeing and other important industry representatives. Joe has also met with union members from the UAW membership that work at Boeing, met/spoken with IBEW laborers, carpenters, steelworkers, ironworkers, SEIU, AFT, union/organizations and others. Joe intends to continue meeting with representatives of the key constituencies for their views.

Born and raised in Delaware County, former 3-star Admiral Joe Sestak served in the Navy for 31 years and now serves as the Representative from the 7th District of Pennsylvania. He led a series of operational commands at sea, including Commander of an aircraft carrier battle group of 30 U.S. and allied ships with over 15,000 sailors and 100 aircraft that conducted operations in Afghanistan and Iraq. After 9/11, Joe was the first Director of "Deep Blue," the Navy's anti-terrorism unit that established strategic and operations policies for the "Global War on Terrorism." He served as President Clinton's Director for Defense Policy at the National Security Council in the White House, and holds a Ph.D. in Political Economy and Government from Harvard University. According to the office of the House Historian, Joe is the highest-ranking former military officer ever to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives.

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